

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PAGE

COMPACT ADMINISTRATOR

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Address Correspondence and Telephone Calls To: Deputy Compact Administrator.

ICPC Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time Zone.

FAX: (617) 261-7437 or (617) 261-7435 (please call before faxing).

GENERAL INFORMATION

ICPC Code Citation. M.G.L.A. c. 119, app. 2-1 to 2-8.

Statutory Penalties Under Article IV. Yes. Fine of up to \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than six months or both. M.G.L.A. c. 28A Section 15.

Age of Majority. 18 years. M.G.L.A. c. Section 7.

Court Jurisdiction. Probate Court (Adoption); District Court (Care and Protection Petitions).

REQUIREMENTS

Reports. Every three months. By administrative regulation.

Licensing Requirements. Placement agencies must be licensed by the Office for Child Care Services. M.G.L.A. c. 28A Section 11. Placement agencies must have as one of their principle purposes the provision of custodial care and social services to children. M.G.L.A. c. 28A Section 9. When a child is coming into Massachusetts from a non-compact state, or from a private agency in a Compact state, the form "Application to Bring a Child into the Commonwealth" must be completed. M.G.L.A. c. 119 Section 36.

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PLACEMENTS

Independent Adoptive Placements. Only licensed or approved placement agencies can place or facilitate the placement of a child with any person not related to such child by blood or marriage for purposes of adoption. M.G.L.A. c. 28A Section II (c).

Adoption Petition. No residency requirements. M.G.L.A. c. 210 Section 1. No minimum time between filing of petition for adoption and final decree, but child must be in home for at least six months and reports made before petition granted. M.G.L.A. c. 210 Section 5a. Petition filed at any time.

Residential Placements.

-Placements Requiring Interstate Approval: All residential placements require interstate approval with the exception of those facilities which are primarily educational or medical.

-Requirements for Placements: ICPC-100A. Child Summary and diagnostic evaluations.

-Approval of Facilities: The Office for Children is responsible for licensing residential facilities for children. Licensure varies from one to two years. Call the Central Office of Licensing for current information. Telephone: (617) 727-8900.

-Rate Setting: Rates for residential programs are set by the Rate Setting Commission. Telephone: (617)727-1150.

-Monitoring of the Child: Supervision of children in residential facilities by Massachusetts will be arranged upon request; otherwise, the sending agency will be responsible for such monitoring.

-Philosophy for the Placement of Non-Resident Youth: Approval for residential placements requires that the facility be appropriate to meet the needs of the child placed.

Requirements for Foster Care Placements. Foster parents must be either approved and supervised by a licensed placement agency or licensed by the Office of Children, M.G.L.A. c. 28A Section II (b). Telephone: (617)727-8956.

PAYMENTS

AFDC Payments. Payments by Massachusetts agencies are provided on behalf of nonresident youth placed with relatives who are of the prescribed degree.

Medicaid Payments. Payments are provided for Massachusetts children placed in other states with foster parents or relatives receiving aid from Massachusetts; but are not generally provided if the child is with the natural parents unless the Commonwealth has permanent custody.

Foster Care Payments. Massachusetts' rate will be paid.

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Special Education Payments. Not provided for non-resident youth, placed in Massachusetts, but rather are the responsibility of the sending agency.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Child Abuse Hotline. Telephone (800) 792-5200 from inside Massachusetts, (617) 232-4882 from outside Massachusetts.

Juvenile Compact Office. Department of Youth Services is responsible for adjudicated delinquents; contact George O'Shea at (617) 727-7575. Office of the Commissioner of Probation is responsible for runaways. Contact Donna Reed at (617) 727-7196.

Mental Health Compact Office. Contact Elizabeth Inrin, Mental Health; (617) 727-4575. Contact Mark Ostrowski, Mental Retardation; (617) 727-5600.